

The Legislative Services Commission, through the Legislative Services Officer, shall assign professional staff to assist the Commission in its work. The House of Representatives' and the Senate's Directors of Legislative Assistants shall assign clerical staff to the Commission, and the expenses relating to the clerical employees shall be borne by the Commission. Members of the Commission shall receive subsistence and travel expenses at the rates set forth in G.S. 120-3.1, 138-5, or 138-6, as appropriate.

**SECTION 44.3.** In conducting the study, the Commission shall consider issues related to guardianship for incompetent persons and minors including, but not limited to, the following:

- (1) Whether guardianship should be a remedy of last resort used only if less restrictive alternatives are insufficient.
- (2) The definition of incompetency or, if appropriate, incapacity.
- (3) Whether courts should be required to make express findings regarding the extent of a person's incapacity and limit the scope of the guardianship accordingly.
- (4) Legal rights retained or lost as a result of being adjudicated incompetent.
- (5) The role of public human services agencies in providing guardianship services.
- (6) Legal procedures and protections in guardianship proceedings.
- (7) Public monitoring of guardianship.
- (8) Examination of current training resources and the possible collaboration and coordination of current training resources for all stakeholders, including family members, individuals, corporate guardians, and public agencies.
- (9) Certification of all guardians and adoption of standards of practice for guardians.
- (10) Educating citizens with respect to guardianship and alternatives to guardianship.
- (11) Powers, duties, and liabilities of guardians, including guardians of the person.
- (12) Creation of an Office of Public Guardian.
- (13) Public guardianship, including the provision and funding of public guardianship services, treatment of disinterested public agent guardians, priorities regarding appointment of individuals, corporations, and public guardians, and possible conflicts of interest with the appointment of certain disinterested public agent guardians.
- (14) Funding for guardianship services provided by nonprofit agencies, including the need of current corporate guardians for additional resources in providing services to wards.
- (15) Implementation of additional corporate guardianship programs.
- (16) Enactment of the Uniform Guardianship and Protective Proceedings Act (UGPPA) or similar revisions to Chapter 35A of the General Statutes.
- (17) Jurisdictional provisions governing incompetency and guardianship proceedings and portability of guardianship for foreign guardians.